To the Chairman and Members of the Mirfield Urban District Council.

June 1919.

Gentlemen,

My fourteenth Annual Report will be on the same lines as last year, and (in accordance with the Local Government Board's Memorandum) brief.

BIRTHS:-

The number of births registered during the year was 187; of these 100 were male and 87 female. There were 12 illegitimate births, 4 male and 8 female.

The birth-rate is calculated from a population of 12266 "which is intended to include all the elements of the population contributing to the birth-rate. It consists therefore of all the civilian population plus all non-civilians enlisted from this country, whether serving at home or abroad".

The birth-rate is 15·2 compared with 14·8 last year.

The birth-rate for England and Wales is 17·7.

DEATHS:-

The estimated civilian population in the district in 1918 is 10947, and the death-rate is calculated from this figure, "as it has been found impossible to transfer the deaths of non-civilians to their areas of residence"

The total number of deaths registered in the district was 197 viz., 97 males and 100 females. This includes 21 "residents" who died outside the district, and excludes 10 "non-residents" who died in the various public institutions in the district.

The death-rate for the year is 17·9 compared with 13·3 for 1917.

The death-rate for England and Wales is 17·6.

INFANTILE MORTALITY:-

Out of a total of 187 births there were only 10 deaths in infants under one year of age. Premature birth caused 3, convulsions

and inanition 2 each, and meningocoele, spina bifida and jaundice one each.

The infantile mortality is only 53 per 1000 births, compared with 75 for the previous year, and 97 for England and Wales.

The infantile mortality for the last 10 years in Mirfield has been:-

1909	115	1914	93
1910	114	1915	80
1911	98	1916	88
1912	80	1917	75
1913	88	1918	53

One illegitimate infant died.

The number of patients treated in the Mirfield Memorial Hospital during the year was 148, and 43 surgical operations were performed under a general anaesthetic. There were 9 deaths in the Hospital.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES:-

In my last Report I stated that 1917 was a record year since the Notification Act was adopted. The only notifications were one case Scarlet Fever, one case Diphtheria, one case Enteric Fever.

The year 1918 has not been much worse, for only 2 cases of Scarlet Fever, 2 cases of Diphtheria (and one "suspect"), one case of Enteric Fever, have been notified.

There were only 4 cases of Erysipelas.

All these cases recovered.

MEASLES:-

There were 226 cases of Measles notified in 1917, the months of September and October contributing 68 and 81 respectively. In 1918, there were 288 cases notified, chiefly during the first 8 months. of the yaer.

March, April, and May contributed 58, 54, and 50 cases

respectively. These figures do not give any idea of the total number of cases as frequently several occurred in the same house and only one case has to be notified.

Only one school was closed for 3 weeks owing to this epidemic. Three deaths were registered as due to measles.

During the latter part of the epidemic the School Nurse visited a large number of cases and gave good advice to the parents.

INFLUENZA:-

This disease was epidemic in the district during the months of January, July, October, November, and December.

The months of July and November probably produced the greatest amount of sickness ever known in Mirfield.

All schools were closed for 3 weeks in these months.

There were no less than 33 deaths registered as due to Influenza, 22 males and 11 females; and in several other cases Influenza was certified as a secondary cause. The deaths occurred in July 11, September 1, November 12, and December 9.

AGES AT DEATH FROM INFLUENZA:-

Under 1 year of age			0
1 - 5	years	..	2
5 -15	..	..	3
15 -25	..	..	8
25- 65	..	..	17
Over 65	..	..	3

Seventeen of the cases were complicated with Pneumonia, 4 each with Bronchitis and Heart disease, 2 with Phthisis and one each with Diabetes and Purpura.

The death-rate from Influenza alone is 3 per 1000, or 1/6 of the total mortality.

PHTHISIS.

The number of ~~cases of~~ cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis notified since the disease became compulsorily notifiable was:-

1912	11cases
1913	11 cases
1914	14 ..
1915	14 ..
1916	11 ..
1917	17 ..
1918	16 ..

The following table shows particulars regarding the Pulmonary cases:-

No:	Name	Date of Notification.	Age	Sex	Occupation.	Result.
1.	J.H.W.	11 Jan:	27	M.	Dis: Soldier.	Cured S.
2.	L.L.	14 ..	38	M	Cloth finisher.	
3.	J.S.	21 ..	23	M		S.
4.	C.A.B.	18 Mar.	27	M.	Priest.	Cured S.
5.	D.A.	18 ..	9	F.	School.	
6.	- M.	4 Apr.	49	F,	Household.	Dispensary.
7.	F.H.	21 June.	5	F.	School	Died.
8.	A.T.	19 July.	46	F.	Weaver	
9.	A.R.	29 ..	25	M.	None.	Died.
10.	W.H.G.	7 Aug:	28	M.	Engine Fitter.	
11.	M.B.	21 Sept:	26	F.	Weaver.	
12.	E.I.B.	10 Oct:	28	M.	Mill Hand.	
13.	E.D.	3 Nov:	49	F.	Household.	Died.
14.	B.B.	8 Nov:	16	F.	None.	
15.	E.C.	8 ..	19	F.	None	Died.
16.	F.E.	10 Dec:	11	M.		

2 Cases belonged to Hopton Ward

2 .. .. .. Eastthorpe Ward.

8 .. .. .. Northorpe Ward.

4 .. .. .. Battyeford Ward.

There were 13 deaths due to Pulmonary Tuberculosis during the year, but only 6 of these belonged to the above list.

The following is the list of cases treated at the Huddersfield Dispensary.

PULMONARY CASES.

	Male.		Female.	
New Cases 1918.	Over 10	Under 10.	Over 10	Under 10
	3	4	2	0
Cases attending at end of 1917	17	6	12	4.
Total Cases treated in 1918.	16	10	12	4

CASES TREATED AT SANATORIUM DURING 1918:-

Two females over 10.

Seven cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis were notified to the Army Council, in accordance with the Tuberculosis Regulations for men of military age.

NON-PULMONARY TUBERCULOSIS:-

Only 3 cases of non-pulmonary tuberculosis were notified for 1918 compared with 11 for 1917, 13 for 1916, 13 for 1915 and 10 for 1914.

One case belonged to Eastthorpe Ward and 2 to Hopton Ward.

The following table shows particulars regarding the non-pulmonary cases:-

No:	Name	Date	Age	Sex	Occupation.	Localization	Result.
1.	W.D.	11 Jan:	21	M.	Dis: Soldier.	Cervical Glands.	Died.
2.	J.W.	16 ..	11	M.	School	Bronch: Glands.	Cured.
3.	D.B.	7 Aug:	32	M.	Miner.	Vertebra.	Died.

CANCER..

This disease was responsible for 12 deaths, nine of which were females compared with 16 in 1917 and 15 in 1916.

INQUESTS.

Only seven inquests were held during the year. Verdicts were drowning 2, Heart disease 2, apoplexy, fractured skull, and poisoning.

METEOROLOGY.

Rain fell on 189 days during the year. The total rainfall was 42·7 inches. The average maximum temperature was 50·53 and minimum 37·29.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE SCHEME.

A movement is on foot to appoint 2 or 3 district nurses, and it is hoped that it will be possible to get a suitable central home for them, where maternity cases may be received when necessary. At present children may be sent to the "Dewsbury Child Welfare", but

the distance prevents many from availing themselves.

VENEREAL DISEASES.

Arrangements have been made for free treatment for all persons suffering from these diseases under conditions of secrecy. Treatment centres have been provided at General Hospitals, such as Leeds General Infirmary, and Dewsbury & District General Infirmary. If necessary even the railway fare will be paid.

HOUSING.

Additional land has been purchased for housing on the Stocks Bank Estate bringing the total amount up to 18ac. 1r. 21p. This area has been laid out for 155 houses, each containing 3 bedrooms; 53 are of the parlour type, and 102 of the scullery type. The former has a bath-room up-stairs, with hot and cold water, and the latter has a bath in the scullery.

The plans have been approved by the Housing Commissioner and the details of the different types of houses have been settled. The site is an ideal one in every respect, it has a slppe to the South, and the sub-soil is of open rag-stone, which gives a very dry foundation.

Stocksbank Quarry forms part of the Estate, and this area which is 3ac. 3r. 22p. could easily be laid out at a small cost as a pleasing open space. About ¼ acre, behind Bank House, has been reserved as a play ground for small children.

The density over the whole site is 8·5 per acre & after deducting open spaces 10·85. Particular care has been taken in the laying out of the site, So that each house shall get the maximum sunshine. There is a distance of 70 feet between most of the ~~backs~~ blocks of ~~the~~ houses.

The Council have under consideration an additional plot of land about 4½ acres on which a further 50 houses could be built.

INGS GROVE ESTATE, has also been purchased by the Council during the year and the 4 acres of ground will provide an acceptable central open-air space which will no doubt be much appreciated by the inhabitants. It has not yet been decided what will be done with the house.

Your obedient servant,

LESLIE J. MILNE.

M.O.H.